

Appln. No. 10/657,044

Amendment dated July 14, 2005

Reply to Office Action mailed December 23, 2004

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

1. (Currently Amended) A leg support system comprising:
a weight-bearing support cuff adapted to fit around a user's lower leg below a knee;

support members extending down from said support cuff, said support members having a length adapted for engaging a supporting surface when the user transfers weight onto the user's leg whereby said support members transfer weight bearing of the user to said support cuff; and

each support member having an extension portion and a foot portion, said extension portion extending from said foot portion at an angle such that said extension portion is adapted for positioning in front of a lateral malleolus of the user, said foot portion of each of said support members being positioned in a spaced relationship and below the foot of the user to inhibit the foot of the user from contacting the supporting surface, said foot portion of each of said support members being positioned to a respective side of the foot without extending under the foot of the user to allow the foot portion of each of said support members to contact the support surface without said foot portion of said support members contacting the foot for inhibiting transference of pressure into the foot of the user.

2. (Original) The leg support system of claim 1 wherein each said support member has an arcuate lower surface for facilitating pivoting of said support members on a supporting surface to approximate a natural walking motion.

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3. (Previously Presented) The leg support system of claim 1 wherein a length of each said support members extending below said support cuff is adjustable.

4. (Original) The leg support system of claim 1, further comprising: a plurality of straps for securing said support cuff and said support members to the user's leg.

5. (Original) The leg support system of claim 1 wherein said support cuff includes a pair of raised upper side portions such that a front edge of said support cuff extends up and around a patellar region of the user from beneath the patellar region of the user for preventing displacement of a patella of the user during use.

6. (Original) The leg support system of claim 1, further comprising: each support member including a screw slot for coupling said support member to said support cuff.

7. (Original) The leg support system of claim 6, further comprising: a plurality of screws, each screw being adjustably engageable to a respective one said support members by tightening said screw at a selectable position within a respective one of said screw slots whereby a length each said support member extends below said support cuff is adjustable.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Original) The leg support system of claim 2, further comprising: a respective rubber footing covering said lower surface of each said support member.

10. (Original) The leg support system of claim 1, further comprising: a lower portion of said support cuff tapering to conform to a shape of the user's leg tapering from a lower calf region towards an ankle region of

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the user whereby said lower portion of said support cuff is adapted for supporting weight of the user.

11. (Original) The leg support system of claim 4, further comprising: said plurality of support straps including a pair of cuff straps extending around said support cuff for facilitating securing of said support cuff to the user to prevent slippage of said support cuff during use.

12. (Original) The leg support system of claim 4, further comprising: said plurality of support straps including a pair of loose bands securable around said support members and the leg of the user at a selectable position to facilitate comfortable securing of said support members to the leg of the user.

13. (Previously Presented) A leg support system comprising: a weight-bearing support cuff adapted to fit around a user's lower leg below a knee;

support members extending down from said support cuff, said support members having a length adapted for engaging a supporting surface when the user transfers weight onto the user's leg whereby said support members transfer weight bearing of the user to said support cuff; and

each support member having an extension portion and a foot portion, said extension portion extending from said foot portion at an angle such that said extension portion is adapted for positioning in front of a lateral malleolus of the user, said foot portion of each of said support members being positioned in a spaced relationship and below the foot of the user to inhibit the foot of the user from contacting the supporting surface, said foot portion of each of said support members being positioned to a respective side of the foot without extending under the foot of the user to allow the foot portion of each of said support members to contact the support surface without said foot portion of said support members contacting the foot for inhibiting transfer of pressure into the foot of the user;

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wherein each said support member has an arcuate lower surface for facilitating pivoting of said support members on a supporting surface to approximate a natural walking motion;

wherein a length of each said support members extending below said support cuff is adjustable;

a plurality of straps for securing said support cuff and said support members to the user's leg;

wherein said support cuff includes a pair of raised upper side portions such that a front edge of said support cuff extends up and around a patellar region of the user from beneath the patellar region of the user for preventing displacement of a patella of the user during use;

each support member including a screw slot for coupling said support member to said support cuff;

a plurality of screws being adjustably engageable to a respective one said support members by tightening said screw at a selectable position within a respective one of said screw slots whereby a length each said support member extends below said support cuff is adjustable;

a respective rubber footing covering said lower surface of each said support member;

a lower portion of said support cuff tapering to conform to a shape of the user's leg tapering from a lower calf region towards an ankle region of the user whereby said lower portion of said support cuff is adapted for supporting weight of the user;

said plurality of support straps including a pair of cuff straps extending around said support cuff for facilitating securing of said support cuff to the user to prevent slippage of said support cuff during use; and

said plurality of support straps including a pair of loose bands securable around said support members and the leg of the user at a selectable position to facilitate comfortable securing of said support members to the leg of the user.